Manufacturing of Coaches by RCF Kapurthala

3588. SHRI V NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact RCF Kapurthala exceeded the target in manufacturing coaches; and

(b) whether it is a fact that new norms are being fixed for the production target in RCF Kapurthala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A study for introduction of Incentive Scheme is in hand at Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. The refixing of production norms is a part of this study.

"Objectives of Montreal Protocol"

3589. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Industrial Development has drawn up a strategy to comply with the aims and objectives of Montreal Protocol on phasing out harmful chlorofluorocarbons;

(b) if so, whether the special task force set up for this purpose has submitted its final report;

(c) if so, the details; and

(d) when the implementation of the strategy is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) A Task Force has been set up by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Development, to draw up the national strategy on the phase-out of Ozone depleting substances, such as Chlorofluorocarbons, Halons and other chemicals, and for the adoption of substitute substance technologies. The final report of the Task Force is awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The strategy outlined by the Task Force and the country programme which is separately under preparation, would determine the implementation of India's commitments under the Montreal Protocol. The pace of implementation would also depend on the preparation of projects and the approval of these projects by the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

"Grant of Title Deeds to Encroachers on Forest Land"

3590. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has decided to grant title deeds to encroachers on forest land without any safeguard, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Central Government have given approval for the grant of pattayam's for 28500 hectares of forest land in Idukki Distt. to the Government of Kerala against the guidelines prescribed by the Central Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for violating the guidelines in this particular case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Kerala State Government have sent a proposal for diversion of 28,588,159 ha forest land for regularisation of pre 1-1-1977 encroachments in five districts of Kerala namely Idukki, Ernakulam, Kollam, Pathanamthitta and Thrissur.

(b) and (c) Approval in principle has been accorded to the proposal of the State Government, in accordance with the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and guidelines issued under the Act and in accordance with Government Policy as contained in the guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for

regularisation of pre-enactment encroachments.

"Decline in the Tiger Population"

3591. DR. SANJAY SINH : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an alarming decline in the Tiger population particularly in the "Tiger Re-reserves" in several States;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been a perceptible drop in the population of Leopards in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal; and

(d) if so, what corrective steps Government propose to take in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The last All India Tiger/Leopard Census was carried out in 1989 and next is due in 1993. The actual position will be revealed only after the census figures of 1993 are received.

(d) Does not arise.

"Ecology Parks in Coastal Areas"

3592. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether town planning experts have suggested the setting up of model ecology parks in Coastal areas in the country, as per the news item entitled "Ecology Parks in Coastal areas mooted" which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 19th February, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

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THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) and (b) The Institute of Town Planners in their 41st Seminar on Development and Management of coastal areas have suggested in the draft recommendations setting up of model ecology parks in the coastal areas. However, details etc. have not been given in their draft recommendations. The recommendations have not been received in this Ministry.

(c) The suggestions of the Institute of Town Planners as and when received would be forwarded to the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, in consultation with the Ministry of Urban Development, for their consideration.

"Action Plan for the Himaalyas"

3593. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government propose to a new action plan for the Himalayas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) The Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Environment & Forests have prepared an Action Plan or the Himalaya.

(b) The salient features of the Action Plan are given below :

—Geological instability interacting with a complex of problems manifest fragility to the Himalayan ecosystem.

—Data on problems like denudation, siltation, hydrological imbalances and floods suffer from the drawbacks, precision and the regional quantifications are found to be quite low.

—Positive points of traditional resource production and use systems needs